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FIRST BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

Secretary & Board of Directors and Superintendent

OF THE

DAKOTA SCHOOL FOR DEAF MUTES,

AT

SIOUX FALLS, DAKOTA.

FIRST BIENNIAL REPORT

-OF THE--

SECRETARY

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AND

SUPERINTENDENT

OF THE

DAKOTA

SCHOOL FOR DEAF MUTES,

AT

SIOUX FALLS,

FROM ITS OPENING, 1880 TO 1882.

SIOUX FALLS
SIOUX FALLS PUBLISHING COMPANY, PRINTERS,
1882

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

DAKOTA SCHOOL FOR DEAF MUTES,

LOCATED AT

SIOUX FALLS, DAKOTA TERRITORY.

Hon. E. A. SHERMAN, Sioux Falls, President.
Hon. A. F. SHAW, Sioux Falls, Treasurer.
E. G. WRIGHT, Esq., Sioux Falls, Secretary.
Hon. J. O'B. SCOBEY, Brookings.
*Rev. G. C. PENNELL, Deadwood.
Hon. C. A. LOUNSBERRY, Bismarck.
C. K. HOWARD, Esq., Sioux Falls.
Hon. V. P. THEILMAN, Parker.
Hon. O. S. GIFFORD, Canton.

SUPERINTENDENT AND TEACHER.

JAMES SIMPSON.

*Deceased.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY.

Report of the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Deaf Mute School, located at Sioux Falls, Dakota.

To His Excellency, N. G. Ordway, Governor of Dakota Territory:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Dakota Deaf Mute School, located at Sioux Falls, we submit the following as the first report of the Institution aforesaid.

From the nature of the case such report can be little else than a mere statement, showing that such a school is in existence belonging to and supported by the Territory, and an introduction to the report of the Superintendent of the school, and from such report may be gathered the condition of the school in all its aspects.

The school had appropriated for the purpose of erecting a building, by the Legislature of 1880-81, the sum of $2,000, upon the condition that the citizens of Sioux Falls would contribute $1,000, and deed to the Territory ten acres of land suitable for the site. During the summer and fall of 1881 the ten acres of land was obtained and $1,000 in money from the citizens of Sioux Falls, and the Board of Directors let the contract for a two-story building 36x40, main building, and wing, two-story, 16x24, containing fourteen rooms with cellar under main part, and had the same finished and ready for occupancy October 19, 1881.

Following is the statements of receipts and disbursements of the building fund of the Deaf Mute School:

Credit—	
By amount received from the Territory of Dakota, warrant	$2,000 00
By amount received from Village of Sioux Falls, cash.....	1,000 00
Total	$3,000 00
Debtor—	
To amount paid Anderson Bros., original contract	$2,500 00
To amount paid Anderson Bros., changes, extra..	255 70
To amount paid for cistern.....	74 50
To Thomas Kane & Co, school furniture..	128 50
To C C Zeigler, plans and specifications	25 00
To E O. Kimberley, advertising proposals	3 00
To Caldwell & Stahl, advertising proposals	5 00
To John Bippus, legal services	7 90
Exchange paid on warrant	40
Total.....	$3,000 00

For the appropriation of $2,000 from the Territory we have to show a school building valued at $3,500, ten acres of land within the

corporate limits of Sioux Falls, a choice location, valued at $2,000, or a school building and site worth $5,500.

The education of deaf mutes, which has become permanently incorporated into the public policy of all the States in the Union, is no longer an experiment in the Territory of Dakota.

We believe we have secured in the Superintendent one of unquestioned competency, and as to the zeal and energy he has shown in the work, we refer you to the rate of increase in attendance of deaf mutes: for the first term, from one to five; for the second term an attendance of nine, and for the present term there are in school seventeen pupils, with fair prospect of a greater number.

Our ambition should be to first bring the great public charity up to the standard of similar institutions in the country, and then work for pre-eminence. The hindrances before us now are, lack of furniture of our own, more room, the need of warmer building, and salary fund to pay those employed.

The appendix to the Superintendent's report will show how and by whom the school building has been furnished, and the cost.

The building was furnished by the Superintendent, James Simpson, with the understanding that the Board of Directors would assist him in having the Legislature make an appropriation sufficient to reimburse him for the amount paid out for that purpose. The Board having no funds with which to furnish the school, were very glad of an arrangement that would keep the school open and give the pupils a comfortable home, rather than lock up the house for want of furniture until the meeting of the Legislature.

More room and a warmer building is needed to accommodate the school. As will be seen by reference to the report of the Superintendent, the rate of increase in attendance upon the school the past year admonishes us that the building contains its capacity, and that more room is required if we are to accommodate all who may apply for admission from now on. The number of deaf mutes now residents of the Territory exceeds forty-five, so far as known, in addition to those in attendance. The increase and growth of population that is tending Dakotaward will bring its share of unfortunate people who will seek instruction and be entitled to room in the school suited to their advancement. I would suggest and recommend that a brick or stone structure be erected in such a manner as could be added to in the

future. For the purpose of securing additional room, and at the same time rendering the present building warmer, I would recommend an appropriation of $7,500, or so much thereof as may be necessary to erect a brick or stone addition on the north side of the present building, and veneering up the other sides with brick. This would give the Territory a very substantial school building, and render it warmer, the latter, a thing of great necessity.

Third item, that of salary and expense fund. By an oversight made two years ago, when an appropriation was made of $2,000 for building, there was no appropriation made for the salaries of the Superintendent and teachers of the school; consequently the Superintendent and teacher have received no pay for their work except the small pittance saved out of the amount allowed for each pupil, after paying the expenses of boarding, washing and taking care of them, in addition to teaching.

I herewith present the following table showing the *per capita* cost of maintaining pupils of similar institutions in the United States, which, I trust, will be examined by those interested. The amount is 'ound by dividing the amount appropriated for "Current Expenses" vhich does not include salary, for one year by the average number f pupils in attendance:

akota School for Deaf Mutes	$180 00
ennsylvania Institution for the Blind	287 33
ennessee " " "	310 00
alifornia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb	318 58
ebraska " " "	189 60
ew York " " "	395 28
linois " " "	250 00
innesota " " "	200 00
hio " " "	198 55
ansas " " "	230 00

For the next two years, our wants are summarized as follows:

r an additional building and veneering the present building	$7,500
ncing and improving the grounds with trees	500
lary of Superintendent	2,400
lary of one teacher	1,600
lary of matron	1,000
r help	600
r building of work shops	2,000
r beds, bedding and furniture and incidental expenses	800
Total	$16,400

The foregoing is respectfully submitted, and in conclusion allow to express the hope that the Legislature, through a visiting com-

mittee, will make a thorough examination of the school and its management, and give it the aid and encouragement it merits.

E. G. WRIGHT,
Secretary of the Board of Directors.

SIOUX FALLS, December, 1882.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Board of Directors of the Dakota School for Deaf Mutes:

GENTLEMEN: It seems proper that in presenting you the first report of this school, and of my work as Superintendent, I should first make brief mention of the circumstances which led to the establishment of the Dakota School for Deaf Mutes.

Mainly through the efforts of the Rev. Thomas B. Berry, and Mrs. Jennie Mingus, *nee* Wright, both of whom had experiences in the work of educating the deaf, and the generous voluntary assistance in the way of money from the citizens of Sioux Falls, the school was opened for the first time in November, 1880, in a boarding house with one pupil, Mr. Berry being Superintendent and Mrs. Mingus teacher.

The Superintendent and teacher, feeling that the undertaking they had begun required the assistance of others as well as their own, invited the following prominent citizens of Dakota to become members of the Board of Directors: Messrs. E. A. Sherman, Sioux Falls; Newton Edmunds, Yankton; A. F. Shaw, Sioux Falls; J. O'B. Scobey, Brookings; Rev. G. C. Pennell, Deadwood; C. A. Lounsberry, Bismarck; C. K. Howard, Sioux Falls; V. P. Theilman, Parker; O. S. Gifford, Canton; E. G. Wright, Sioux Falls; all of whom very kindly consented.

In the early part of the year 1881, the Territorial Legislative Assembly, then in session, made provision for the maintenance of a Territorial School for the education of deaf mute residents of Dakota, and located the same at Sioux Falls, with an appropriation of $2,000 for building, provided the village of Sioux Falls would donate ten acres of land and $1,000 in money, which offer had previously

been made on the part of Sioux Falls, in order to secure the location of the school.

In June of the same year the Executive Committee of the Board selected the site, which was the free gift to the Territory of ten acres of land from the following gentlemen: Messrs. E. A. Sherman, R. F. Pettigrew. N. E. Phillips, L. T. Dunning, all of Sioux Falls, and Isaac Emerson, of Melrose, Mass.

The location, which is high and consequently a healthy one, is the very best that could be found in the vicinity of the town, making the school situated about three-fourths of a mile from the business center of Sioux Falls, but within the corporate limits. The $1,000 donated by the village of Sioux Falls was added to the building fund of $2,000 appropriated as before stated.

Immediately following the the selection of the site began the erection of the school building, which was finished and ready for occupancy on the 19th of October, 1881, on which date the school was removed from its original place, the aforesaid boarding house, when the present incumbent assumed the duties of superintendent and teacher.

The rate of increase in the number of attendance for the first term was from *one* to five; for the second term from five to nine; and for the present, or third term, from nine to eighteen, with good prospect of several more before close of term. The rate of increase in attendance given above is the best evidence that the necessity and usefulness of this school is being appreciated by the parents of deaf mute children and the public in general.

The system used here in instructing the deaf mutes is the one invented in France by De l'Epee and Sicard, and introduced into this country in 1817, by Thomas H. Gallandet, an American, and Laurent Clerc, a Frenchman, the latter being himself a mute. This system has been disseminated and improved until there are, at this date, fifty-five schools in the United States, giving instruction to over seventy-eight hundred deaf children, employing some four hundred and sixty teachers, nearly all of whom obtained their knowledge of the system either directly or indirectly from this source.

The course of study followed here is the same as pursued in other similar schools. Special attention is paid to the correct use of

the English language, which, to all congenital mutes, is the most difficult study.

It is an acknowledged fact that among those conversant with the deaf mutes that they are, as a class, more subject to sickness than is common in other classes of people. Many of them inherit with the infirmity of deafness, not only a weakened constitution, but a strong tendency to pulmonary and other complaints. We are, however, happy to be permitted to report that not a single case of sickness to last twenty-four hours has occurred in this school since its opening in 1880. In the hours of study, in the kind of labor, in the recreation, regular baths and well cooked food, regard is constantly had to the health of the pupils as well as to their intellectual and moral improvement.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS IN THE DAKOTA SCHOOL FOR DEAF MUTES SINCE ITS OPENING, NOVEMBER, 1880

No.	Name.	Age	County.	Time in school.
1	Anderson, Betsy H	18	Union county	Two terms.
2	Axling, Phillip	12	Union county	Two terms.
3	Black, Hester	12	Minnehaha county	Three terms.
4	Benedict, Addie	8	Bon Homme county	One term.
5	*Collins Sarah	19	Minnehaha county	One term.
6	Crowl, H. C	20	Minnehaha county	One term.
7	Dold, J. Jno	16	Minnehaha county	One term.
8	Garrison, Lewis	12	McCook county	Three terms.
9	Garrison, Harry	10	McCook county	Three terms.
10	Gilman, Mo is	10	Cass county	Two terms.
11	*Hanley, W lie	11	Minnehaha county	Two terms.
12	Hanson, Ed ward	11	Codington co ty	One term.
13	*Kittilson ast	7	Linco n county	A few weeks.
14	Peters, F ry	9	Brown county	One term.
15	Ross, Eva	18	Clay county	One term.
16	Ross, E lith	16	Clay county	One term.
17	Rinehardt Ida	13	Yankton county	One term.
18	Richmond, Willie	13	Bon Homme county	Two terms.
19	Sieverson, Andrew	11	Minnehaha county	Three terms.
20	*Victory, Joseph	10	Richland county	One term.
21	Wirth, Herman	12	Cass county	One term.

Those not present at this date are marked with an *.

It is to be hoped that every mute who has or shall receive the benefit of this school will remember with grateful heart the Rev. Thomas B. Berry and Mrs. Jennie Mingus, among others, who, in spite of the extraordinary severe winter of 1880–81, when charity was severely taxed throughout Dokota and the Northwest, not only urged the necessity of this school but lent it the helping hand that gave it a good healthy start. The following citizens of Sioux Falls assisted

us at the start to the amount set opposite their respective names. They have our thanks and those of the pupils and their friends:

C. K. Howard	$25 00	H. Gilbert	5 00
E. A. Sherman	23 00	J. Q. Houts	5 00
R. F. Pettigrew	15 00	Oscar Ericsson	5 00
A. F. Shaw	15 00	M. Gerin	5 00
H. L. Hollister	15 00	W. Lloyd	5 00
Eastman, McKinney & Scougal	15 00	J. B. Peterson & Co	5 00
M Grigsby	10 00	A. T. Fleetwood	5 00
Wm. VanEps	8 25	A. C. Dixon	5 00
A. Petterson	7 00	Noble Bros	3 00
L. T. Dunning	5 00	D. J. Turner	3 00
T. T. Cochran	5 00	Williams Bros	5 00
W. C. Waters	5 00	S. H. Burk	2 00

On Christmas, 1881, and at other times, we were placed under obligations to E. A. Sherman, Esq., for cash, $10; M. Gerin, Esq., nuts and candies; Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Visher, Christmas tree and 18 volumes juvenile books; C., St. P., M. & O. railway, for special favors; I. K. Buck, apples; E. A. Sherman, for setting out forty rods hedge fence.

The following papers are sent gratuitously to the school, for which the editors and publishers will please accept our thanks and those of the pupils: Moody County Enterprise, Flandreau; Pembina Pioneer, Pembina; New Era, Parker; Deaf Mutes' Journal, Station M, New York City; Deaf Mute Record, Fulton, Mo.; Kentucky Deaf Mute, Danville, Ky.; Mutes' Companion, Faribault, Minn.; Goodson Gazette, Staunton, Va.; Deaf Mute Mirror, Flint, Mich.; Kansas Star, Olathe, Kan.; Deaf Mute Leader, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Deaf Mute Hawkeye, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Deaf Mute Index, Colorado Springs, Col.; Deaf Mute Times, Delavan, Wis.; Mute Journal, Omaha, Neb.; Mute Ranger, Dallas, Tex.; Dakota Star, Canton.

It is the hope of the deaf mute residents of Dakota, and their friends, that the prosperity of this school may continue, and that it may receive substantial encouragements at the hands of the Legislature soon to convene.

In concluding this report, permit me, gentlemen, to thank you for calling me to assume the duties of the position which I have held, and especially for your kind co-operation in whatever seemed best for the education of the deaf mutes.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES SIMPSON,
Superintendent.

SIOUX FALLS, December, 1882.

APPENDIX;

October 19, 1881—	
To 11 bedsteads at $3.50	$38 50
Mattress and and tickings	25 10
24 comforts and blankets	42 00
190 yards sheetings, at 15 cents	28 50
2 bed springs	8 00
16 pillows, 66 cents	10 56
4 feather pillows	6 00
1 marble top chamber set	40 00
1 parlor set	43 00
82 yards curtains and curtain fixtures	8 22
2 looking glasses	80
1 cooking stove, with 40 pieces	55 00
1 coal stove, parlor	35 00
1 heating stove, dining room	14 00
1 heating stove, school room	17 00
1 heating stove, sitting room	10 50
42½ joints pipe, at 20 cents	8 50
11 elbows	8 75
3 coal hods and 1 shovel	2 50
23 yards carpet at 40 cents	9 20
20 yards carpet at 95 cents	19 00
18 chairs	10 80
1 extension table	10 50
1 common table	5 25
2 pine tables	4 00
21 yards table linen	9 00
Dishes, estimated not less than	30 00
Sets chamber ware, wash bowls, pitchers, etc	11 00
1 alarm clock	2 00
3 lamps at $1, one 5 gallon oil can. $1 25	4 25
2 hanging lamps at $3.90	7 80
paper hangings	12 50
trio sad irons	3 00
clothes basket, line and pins	1 60
3 wash tubs and 2 boilers	4 50
lumber for storm door, front	6 50
lumber for storm door, kitchen	8 75
30 yards toweling at 20 cents	6 00
lumber for horse and cow stable, in'cldg carriage house and granary	93 00
Total	$660 08

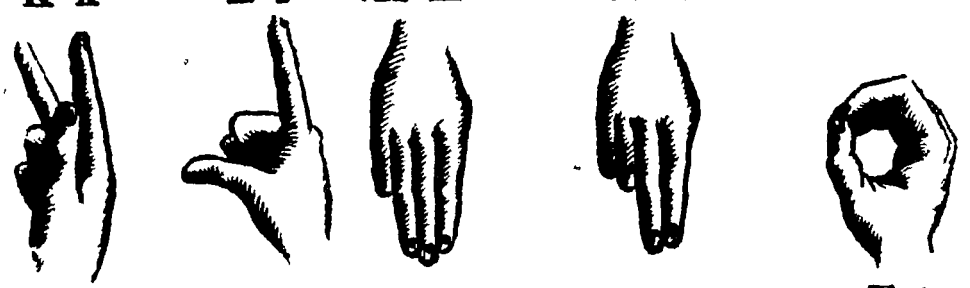
In the above no charges were made for labor in the construction of the stable, storm doors, or banking up the whole school building.

ALPHABET OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.

A a B b C c D d E e

F f G g H h I i J j

K k L l M m N n O o



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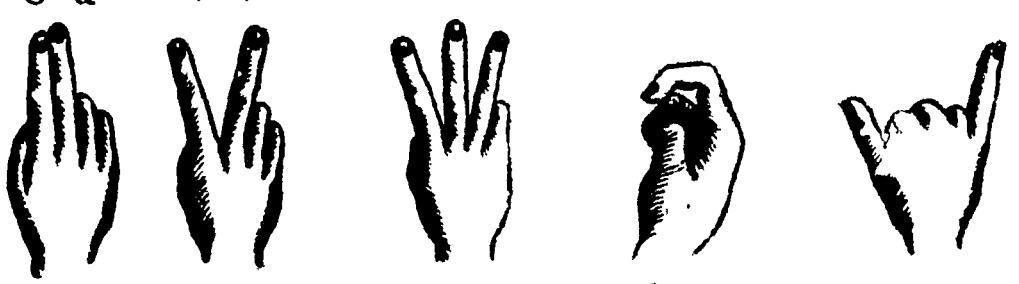

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